

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of simulating a circuit, comprising:

reading a description of the circuit that includes a list of components in the circuit and the interconnections between the components, the circuit including both a first set of nodes and components responsive to time-domain signals, the time-domain signals comprising analog signals given by $V(t)$, and a second set of nodes and components responsive to time-frequency domain signals, the time-frequency domain signals comprising RF signals given by $v(t) = \sum_{k=-K}^K V_K(t)e^{j\omega_k(t)t}$; and

in a single simulation flow, simulating time-domain representations of signals on the first set of nodes and simulating time-frequency domain representations of signals on the second set of nodes by interrelately solving two sets of non-linear equations until convergence, the two sets of equations including a first set of non-linear equations related to the time-domain signals and a second set of non-linear equations related to the time-frequency domain signals; and

in the single simulation flow, partitioning the circuit into at least one analog partition including one or more nodes and components from the first set and at least one RF partition including one or more nodes and components from the second set with a solution of the at least one analog partition affecting a solution of the at least one RF partition and vice versa.

- 2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving user input controlling how to partition the circuit and automatically refining the partitions to provide a higher probability of convergence.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising partitioning the circuit based on user input and automatically sub-partitioning the circuit to increase simulation speed.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein simulating comprises solving each of the partitions separately and performing relaxations over all of the solved partitions.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
partitioning the circuit into separate modules coupled together, with each module being associated with at least one boundary node external to the module;
positioning a boundary node by specifying the boundary node to a fixed value or spectrum; and
solving a partitioned module using the fixed value or spectrum assigned to the positioned boundary node.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving, on a server computer, the description from a client computer over a distributed network, simulating the description on the server computer, and returning results to the client computer over the distributed network.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein simulating comprises solving analog and RF partitions for each time step H, and wherein the time step H is automatically adjusted based on the simulation results of previous time steps and input stimuli.
11. (Currently Amended) A simulator apparatus for simulating a circuit, comprising:
a computer including a single simulator kernel, the single simulator kernel including:
a) an analog solver simulating a first set of circuit nodes and components using time-domain representations of signals; and
b) an RF solver simulating a second set of circuit nodes and components using time-frequency domain representations of signals;
the simulator kernel for ~~solving in an interrelated fashion and, in a single simulation flow, a first set of non-linear equations related to the time-domain representations of signals and a second set of non-linear equations related to the time-frequency domain representations of signals so that solutions of the first set of equations affect solutions of the second set of equations and vice versa in order to simulate the circuit~~ partitioning the circuit, in a single simulation flow, into at least one analog

partition including one or more nodes and components from the first set and at least one RF partition including one or more nodes and components from the second set with a solution of the at least one analog partition affecting a solution of the at least one RF partition and vice versa.

12. (Previously Presented) The simulator of claim 11, further comprising an input to read a netlist describing the physical characteristics of the circuit.

13. (Previously Presented) The simulator of claim 11, further comprising an input to receive control statements from a user to partition the circuit.

14. (Previously Presented) The simulator of claim 11, further comprising a partitioner to partition the first and second set of nodes and components into modules based on user input and to automatically sub-partition the modules to encourage convergence.

15. (Previously Presented) The simulator of claim 11, further comprising a relaxation tester coupled to the analog and RF solvers to perform one-step relaxation on results provided by the solvers.

16. (Previously Presented) The simulator of claim 11, further comprising an input to read an analog database and an RF database.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for simulating a circuit, comprising:

means for reading a description of the circuit that comprises a list of components in the circuit and the interconnections between the components, the circuit comprising both a first set of nodes and components responsive to time-domain signals, the time-domain signals comprising analog signals, and a second set of nodes and components responsive to time-frequency domain signals, the time-frequency domain signals comprising RF signals; and

means for simulating, in a single simulation flow, the first set of nodes using time-domain representations of signals and the second set of nodes using time-frequency domain representations of signals by using two sets of equations and solving the two sets in an interrelated manner until convergence; and

means for, in a single simulation flow, partitioning the circuit into at least one analog partition including one or more nodes and components from the first set and at least one RF partition including one or more nodes and components from the second set with a solution of the at least one analog partition affecting a solution of the at least one RF partition and vice versa.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising a network and wherein the list is read from a client computer coupled to the network and the means for simulating includes a server computer coupled to the network.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising means for partitioning based on user input and means for automatically sub-partitioning the circuit to provide a higher probability of convergence or to improve simulation speed.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising analog solving means and RF solving means within a single simulator kernel.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing instructions thereon for executing a method, the method comprising:

reading a description of the circuit that includes a list of components in the circuit and the interconnections between the components, the circuit including both a first set of nodes and components responsive to time-domain signals, the time-domain signals comprising analog signals, and a second set of nodes and components responsive to time-frequency domain signals, the time-frequency domain signals comprising RF signals; and

in a single simulation flow, simulating time-domain representations of signals on the first set of nodes and simulating time-frequency domain representations of signals on the second set of nodes by interrelately solving two sets of non-linear equations until convergence, the two sets of equations including a first set of non-linear equations related to the time-domain signals and a second set of non-linear equations related to the time-frequency domain signals and partitioning the circuit into at least one analog partition including one or more nodes and components from the first set and at least one RF partition including one or more nodes and components from the second set with a solution of the at

least one analog partition affecting a solution of the at least one RF partition and vice versa.

22-23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, further comprising receiving user input controlling how to partition the circuit and automatically refining the partitions to provide a higher probability of convergence.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, further comprising partitioning the circuit based on user input and automatically sub-partitioning the circuit to increase simulation speed.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein simulating comprises solving each of the partitions separately and performing relaxations over all of the solved partitions.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, further comprising:

partitioning the circuit into separate modules coupled together, with each module being associated with at least one boundary node external to the module;

positioning a boundary node by specifying the boundary node to a fixed value or spectrum; and

solving a partitioned module using the fixed value or spectrum assigned to the positioned boundary node.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the time-domain representation of a signal is given by $V(t)$ and the time-frequency domain

representation of a signal is given by $v(t) = \sum_{k=-K}^K V_K(t) e^{j\omega_k(t)t}$.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, further

comprising receiving, on a server computer, the description from a client computer over a distributed network, simulating the description on the server computer, and returning results to the client computer over the distributed network.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein simulating comprises solving analog and RF partitions for each time step H, and wherein the time step H is automatically adjusted based on the simulation results of previous time steps and input stimuli.